

Animal Feeding Operations (AFO) Subcommittee Report

USDA – Agricultural Air Quality Task Force
Indianapolis, Indiana
October 2-5, 2007

AFO Subcommittee Members

- Gary Baise
- Paul Martin
- Bob Pike
- Wendy Powers
- Doug Shelmidine
- Ben Weinheimer

NRCS staff liaison: Greg Zwicke

AFO Subcommittee Meetings

Conference Calls & Meetings --

- July 2007
 - August 2007
 - September 2007
 - October 2007
-
- Action Plan (San Diego, May 2007)
 - Conference Call Notes

AFO Subcommittee Action Plan

1. USDA and/or its contractors – review existing conservation management practices (CMPs) research data, identify and evaluate new CMPs and report on progress at the next AAQTF meeting.
2. USDA requests that EPA provide updates to the AAQTF at each meeting in the future in response to specific requests for information developed by AAQTF members regarding the NAEMS research project, including steps to be taken after field data is collected.
3. USDA provide an update to the AAQTF at the next meeting on progress made toward developing a unified air research plan for all USDA agencies.
4. EPA legal counsel review the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision on greenhouse gases and provide an interpretation at the next AAQTF meeting to provide a basis for establishing research priorities.
5. AFO Subcommittee will develop a summary document on AFO odor and report to the full AAQTF at the next meeting.

AFO Subcommittee Action Plan

1. USDA and/or its contractors – review existing conservation management practices (CMPs) research data, identify and evaluate new CMPs and report on progress at the next AAQTF meeting.

PROGRESS:

As per information provided by CSREES, Dr. Aneja is developing a summary of CMPs for swine, poultry, dairy and beef.

Report will be available in late 2007/early 2008.

AFO Subcommittee Action Plan

2. USDA requests that EPA provide updates to the AAQTF at each meeting in the future in response to specific requests for information developed by AAQTF members regarding the NAEMS research project, including steps to be taken after field data is collected.

PROGRESS:

Tour on Oct. 1 provided AAQTF members with additional details on the NAEMS project.

Additional recommendation will be presented by the AFO Subcommittee during this AAQTF meeting.

AFO Subcommittee Action Plan

3. USDA provide an update to the AAQTF at the next meeting on progress made toward developing a unified air research plan for all USDA agencies.

PROGRESS:

Some written information has been provided by USDA agencies on current research.

Expect to hear more from USDA agency representatives on Friday, Oct. 5 related to this action plan item.

AFO Subcommittee Action Plan

4. EPA legal counsel review the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision on greenhouse gases and provide an interpretation at the next AAQTF meeting to provide a basis for establishing research priorities.

PROGRESS:

Ms. Shaver will keep the AAQTF informed on any new developments associated with this issue. She will cover the subject in detail during her comments at this AAQTF meeting.

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5. AFO Subcommittee will develop a summary document on AFO odor and report to the full AAQTF at the next meeting.

PROGRESS:

A brief summary was drafted by Dr. Powers as a discussion item for the AFO Subcommittee.

The AFO Subcommittee invited Dr. Von Essen to speak at this meeting on AFOs, odor and public health.

AFO Subcommittee Action Plan

New development:

Methanol and livestock operations.

PROGRESS:

Recent lawsuits relating to methanol emissions from dairy operations in the West have raised questions about the quantity and quality of data.

The AFO Subcommittee invited Dr. Krauter to update the AAQTF on methanol research activities at this AAQTF meeting.

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Thank you.

Questions?